

Table 1. There were no differences in behaviour of physiological indicators of stress between familiar (F) and unfamiliar (UF) handlers

| Variable | n = | Handler | Mean | IQR | v = | p = |
|------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Crossing Time | 46 | F | 51.78 | 4.41 - 61.57 | 415 | 0.354 |
| | | UF | 63.82 | 5.19 - 146.8 | | |
| Pre-test IRT | 46 | F | 33.15 | 32.46 - 33.69 | 412 | 0.236 |
| | | UF | 33.36 | 32.54 - 34.09 | | |
| Post- test IRT | 46 | F | 33.05 | 32.54 - 33.49 | 440 | 0.388 |
| | | UF | 33.08 | 32.3 - 33.69 | | |
| Pre-test Discrepancy | 46 | F | 0.153 | -0.3 - 0.7 | 454 | 0.832 |
| | | UF | 0.218 | -0.4 - 0.6 | | |
| Post-test Discrepancy | 46 | F | 0.268 | -0.2 - 0.5 | 411 | 0.373 |
| | | UF | 0.015 | -0.4 - 0.3 | | |
| Heart Rate | 26 | F | 73.88 | 51.67 - 83.1 | 126 | 0.333 |
| | | UF | 75.19 | 55.85 - 81.55 | | |
| Heart Rate Variability | 26 | F | 108.1 | 70.71 - 143.3 | 163 | 1 |
| | | UF | 101.9 | 80.31 - 122.9 | | |